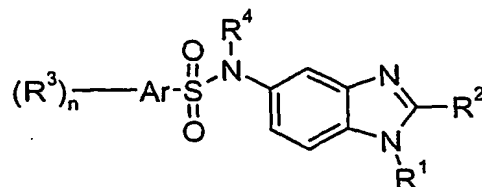


What is claimed is:

1. A compound of Formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



5

I

wherein

- R^1 is selected from C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{2-10} alkenyl, C_{2-10} alkynyl, $R^5-C(=O)-O-$
 C_{1-6} alkyl, $R^5R^6N-C_{1-6}$ alkyl, R^5O-C_{1-6} alkyl, $R^5C(=O)N(-R^6)-C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $R^5R^6NS(=O)_2-$
 C_{1-6} alkyl, $R^5CS(=O)_2N(-R^6)-C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $R^5R^6NC(=O)N(-R^7)-C_{1-6}$ alkyl,
 10 $R^5R^6NS(=O)_2N(R^7)-C_{1-6}$ alkyl, C_{6-10} aryl- C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{6-10} aryl- $C(=O)-C_{1-6}$ alkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl- C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{4-8} cycloalkenyl- C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} heterocyclyl- C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} heterocyclyl- $C(=O)-C_{1-6}$ alkyl, C_{1-10} hydrocarbylamino, R^5R^6N- , R^5O- , $R^5C(=O)N(-R^6)-$, $R^5R^6NS(=O)_2-$, $R^5CS(=O)_2N(-R^6)-$, $R^5R^6NC(=O)N(-R^7)-$, $R^5R^6NS(=O)_2N(R^7)-$,
 C_{6-10} aryl, C_{6-10} aryl- $C(=O)-$, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, C_{4-8} cycloalkenyl, C_{3-6} heterocyclyl and C_{3-6} heterocyclyl- $C(=O)-$;
 15 wherein said C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{2-10} alkenyl, C_{2-10} alkynyl, C_{6-10} aryl- C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{6-10} aryl- $C(=O)-C_{1-6}$ alkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl- C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{4-8} cycloalkenyl- C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} heterocyclyl- C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} heterocyclyl- $C(=O)-C_{1-6}$ alkyl, C_{1-10} hydrocarbylamino, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{6-10} aryl- $C(=O)-$, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, C_{4-8} cycloalkenyl, C_{3-6} heterocyclyl or C_{3-6} heterocyclyl- $C(=O)-$ used in defining R^1 is optionally substituted
 20 by one or more groups selected from halogen, cyano, nitro, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy, benzyl, and $-NR^5R^6$;

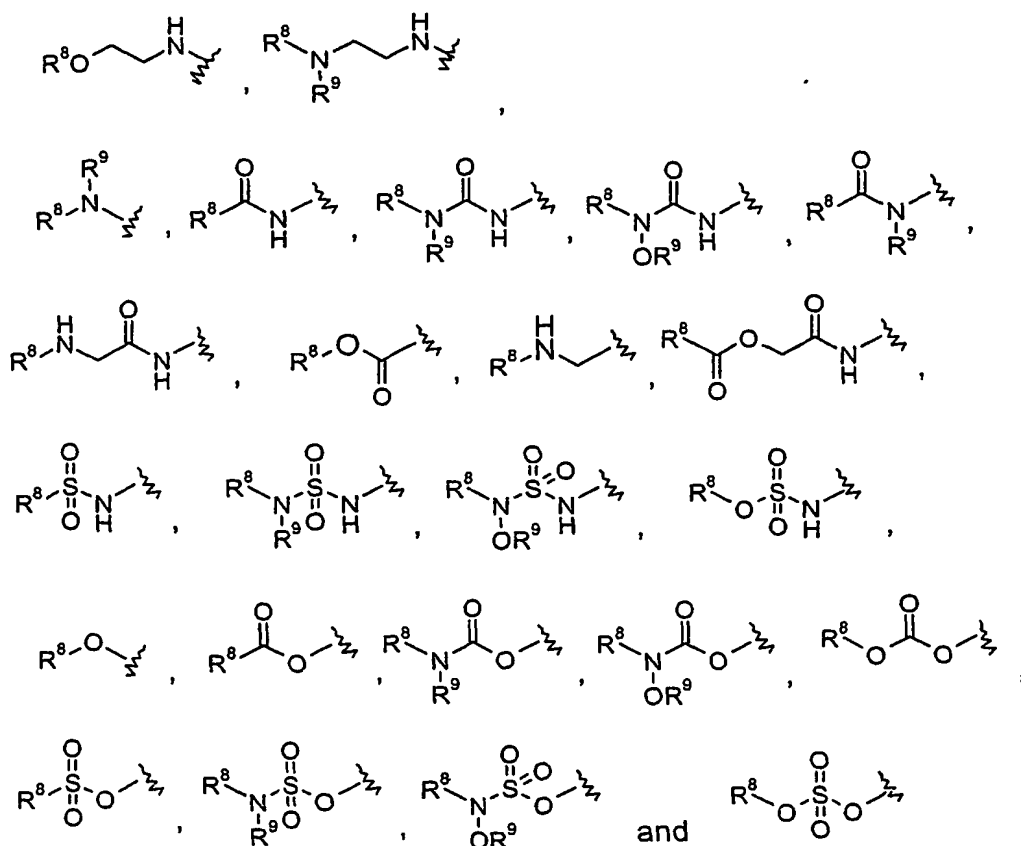
- R^2 is selected from C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{2-10} alkenyl, C_{2-10} alkynyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl- C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{4-8} cycloalkenyl- C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} heterocycloalkyl- C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{4-8} cycloalkenyl, R^5R^6N- , C_{3-5} heteroaryl, C_{6-10} aryl and C_{3-6} heterocycloalkyl, wherein
 25 said C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{2-10} alkenyl, C_{2-10} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl- C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{4-8} cycloalkenyl- C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} heterocycloalkyl- C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{4-8} cycloalkenyl, C_{3-5} heteroaryl, C_{6-10} aryl or C_{3-6} heterocycloalkyl used in defining R^2 is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, cyano, nitro, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy, and $-NR^5R^6$;

wherein R^5 , R^6 and R^7 are independently selected from $-H$, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, and a divalent C_{1-6} group that together with another divalent R^5 , R^6 or R^7 forms a portion of a ring;

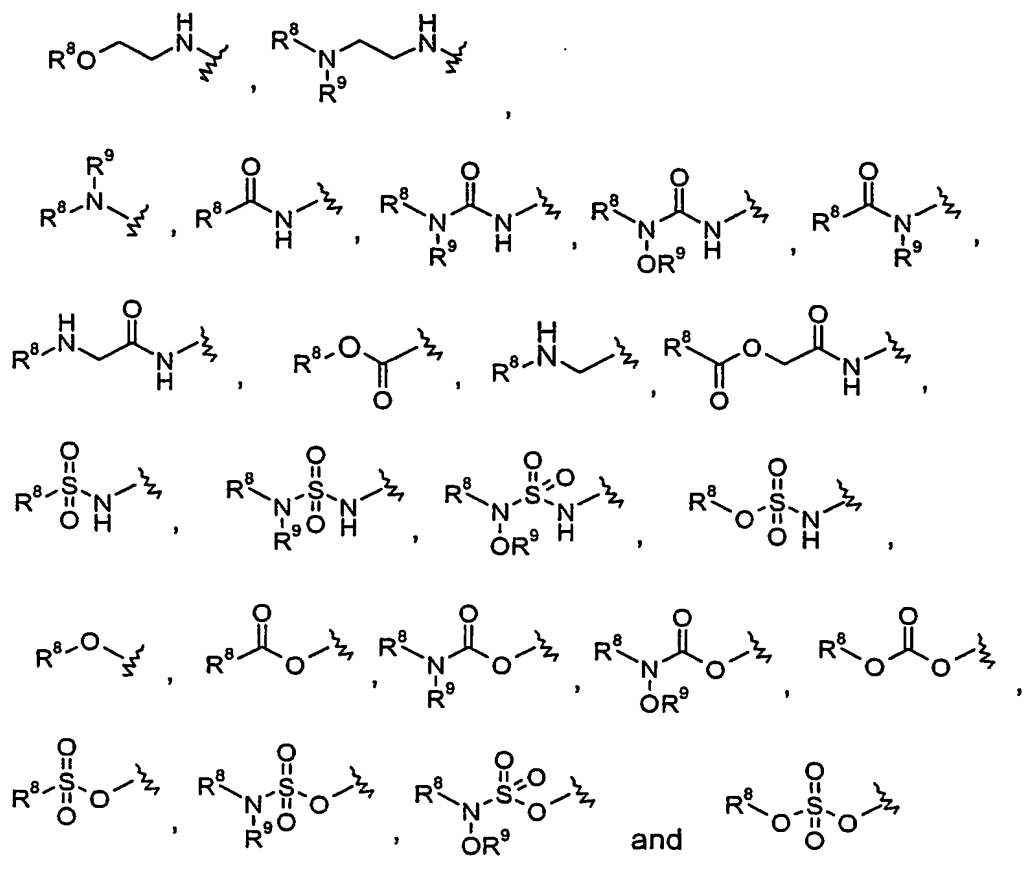
Ar is selected from C_{6-10} aryl and C_{3-8} heteroaryl;

5 n is selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3;

each of R^3 is independently selected from $-H$, nitro, halogen, C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{2-10} alkenyl, C_{2-10} alkynyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl- C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{4-8} cycloalkenyl- C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} heterocycloalkyl- C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} heterocycloalkyl and



10 optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, hydroxy, halogen, amino and C_{1-6} alkoxy,



each of R⁸ and R⁹ is independently selected from -H, C₁₋₁₀alkyl, C₂₋₁₀alkenyl, C₂₋₁₀alkynyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl-C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₆heterocyclyl, C₆₋₁₀aryl, C₃₋₆heterocyclyl-C₁₋₆alkyl, C₆₋₁₀aryl-C₁₋₆alkyl, and a divalent C₁₋₆group that together with another divalent group selected from R⁸ and R⁹ forms a portion of a ring, wherein said C₁₋₁₀alkyl, C₂₋₁₀alkenyl, C₂₋₁₀alkynyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl-C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₆heterocyclyl, C₆₋₁₀aryl, C₃₋₆heterocyclyl-C₁₋₆alkyl, C₆₋₁₀aryl-C₁₋₆alkyl, or divalent C₁₋₆group is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, cyano, nitro, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy, and -NR⁵R⁶; and

R⁴ is selected from -H, C₁₋₁₀alkyl, C₂₋₁₀alkenyl, C₂₋₁₀alkynyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl-C₁₋₆alkyl, and C₄₋₈cycloalkenyl-C₁₋₆alkyl.

2. A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein

R¹ is selected from C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkyl-C(=O)-O-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₂₋₆alkynyl, phenyl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₄₋₆cycloalkenyl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₃₋₆heterocyclyl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₆₋₁₀aryl, C₃₋₆heterocyclyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, and C₄₋₆cycloalkenyl, wherein said C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkyl-C(=O)-O-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₂₋

alkynyl, phenyl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₄₋₆cycloalkenyl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₆₋₁₀aryl, C₃₋₆heterocyclyl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₃₋₆heterocyclyl, C₃₋₁₀cycloalkyl, and C₄₋₆cycloalkenyl used in defining R¹ is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, cyano, nitro, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy, benzyl, and -NR⁵R⁶;

R² is selected from C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₄₋₆cycloalkenyl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₃₋₆heterocycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₄₋₆cycloalkenyl, C₃₋₅heteroaryl, R⁵R⁶N-, and phenyl, wherein said C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₄₋₆cycloalkenyl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₃₋₆heterocycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl, C₄₋₆cycloalkenyl, C₃₋₅heteroaryl, R⁵R⁶N-, and phenyl used in defining R² is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, cyano, nitro, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy and amino;

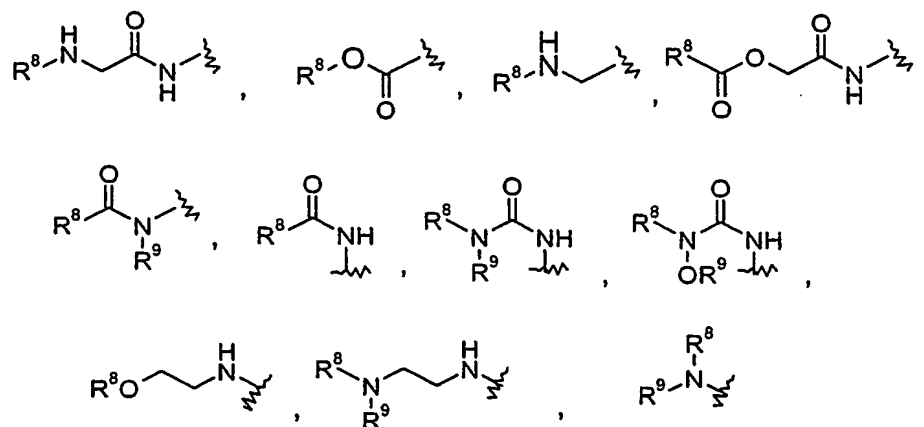
wherein R⁵ and R⁶ are independently selected from -H, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, and a divalent C₁₋₆alkylene that together with another divalent R⁵ or R⁶ and optionally a heteroatom forms a portion of a ring;

Ar is selected from phenyl and C₃₋₅heteroaryl;

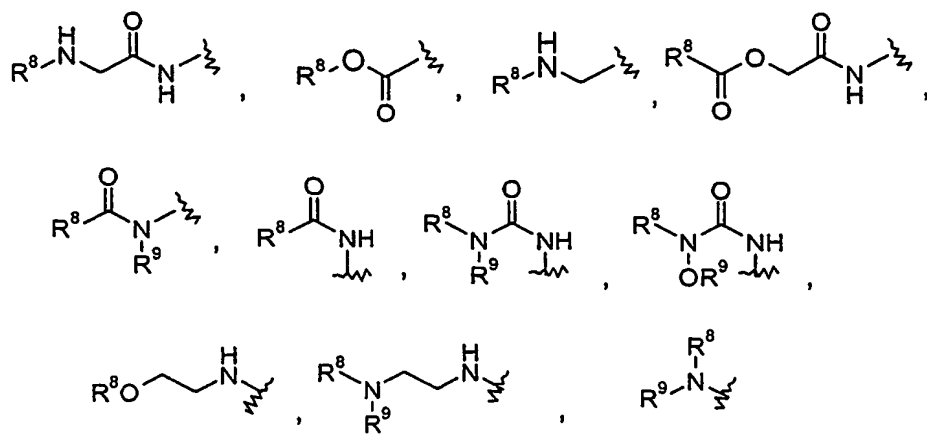
n is selected from 0, 1 and 2;

each of R³ is independently selected from -H, nitro, halogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, C₃₋₆heterocycloalkyl-C₁₋₄alkyl,

20



and, C₃₋₆heterocycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C₁₋₆alkyl, hydroxy, halogen and

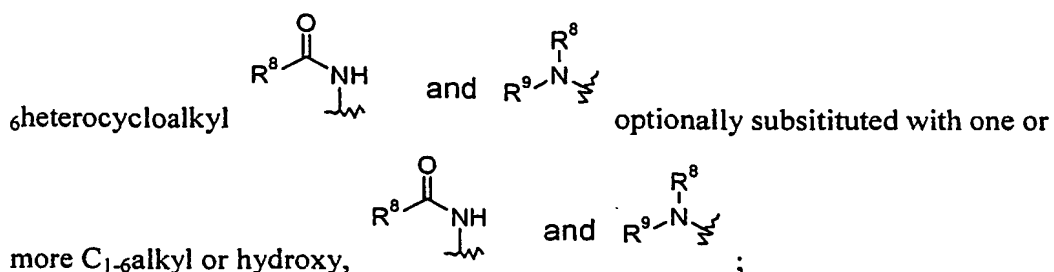


- each of R^8 and R^9 is independently selected from $-H$, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl- C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} heterocyclyl and C_{3-6} heterocyclyl- C_{1-6} alkyl, wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl- C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} heterocyclyl and C_{3-6} heterocyclyl- C_{1-6} alkyl are optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, cyano, nitro, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy and $-NR^{10}R^{11}$; and

R^4 , R^{10} and R^{11} are independently selected from $-H$ and C_{1-3} alkyl.

3. A compound as claimed claim 1,
wherein R^1 is selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-3} alkyl- $C(=O)-O-C_{1-3}$ alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, phenyl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{4-6} cycloalkenyl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{3-6} heterocyclcoalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, and C_{4-6} cycloalkenyl, wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, phenyl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{4-6} cycloalkenyl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{3-6} heterocyclcoalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, and C_{4-6} cycloalkenyl used in defining R^1 is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy, benzyl, and amino;
- R^2 is selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl, wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl and C_{3-6} cycloalkyl- C_{1-4} alkyl used in defining R^2 is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy and amino;
- Ar is selected from phenyl and C_{3-5} heteroaryl and
- n is selected from 0, 1 and 2;

each of R^3 is independently selected from $-H$, halogen, nitro, C_{1-3} alkyl, C_{3-6} heterocycloalkyl



- wherein said C_{3-6} heterocycloalkyl contain at least one nitrogen ring atom and the radical of C_{3-6} heterocycloalkyl is located on the at least one nitrogen ring atom, and wherein each of R^8 and R^9 is independently selected from $-H$, C_{1-6} alkyl, morpholinyl- C_{1-3} alkyl, pyrrolidinyl- C_{1-3} alkyl, and piperidinyl- C_{1-3} alkyl, wherein said C_{1-6} alkyl, morpholinyl- C_{1-3} alkyl, pyrrolidinyl- C_{1-3} alkyl, and piperidinyl- C_{1-3} alkyl are optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy and $-NR^5R^6$; and R^4 , R^5 and R^6 are independently selected from $-H$ and C_{1-3} alkyl.

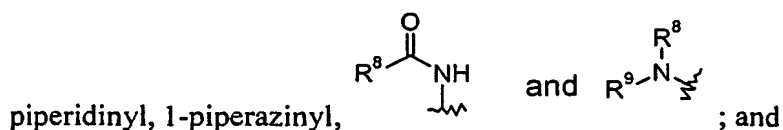
4. A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein R^1 is selected from cyclohexylmethyl, cyclopentylmethyl, cyclobutylmethyl, cyclopropylmethyl, cyclohexylethyl, cyclopentylethyl, bicyclo[2.2.1]hept-5-en-2-ylmethyl, 4,4-difluorocyclohexylmethyl, tetrahydropyranylmethyl, tetrahydropyranylethyl, tetrahydrofuranylmethyl, 1-piperidinylethyl, and N-methyl-2-piperidinylmethyl;

- R^2 is selected from t-butyl, n-butyl, 2-methyl-2-butyl, isopentyl, 2-methoxy-2-propyl, 2-hydroxyl-propyl, trifluoromethyl, 1,1-difluoroethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl, 1-methyl-propyl, 1,1-dimethyl-propyl, 1,1-dimethyl-3-buten-1-yl, ethyl, and 2-propyl;

Ar is selected from phenyl, pyridyl, pyrimidyl, thiazolyl, thienyl, isoxazolyl, imidazolyl, and pyrazolyl;

n is selected from 0, 1 and 2;

- each of R^3 is independently selected from $-H$, C_{1-3} alkyl, 4-morpholinyl, 1-



piperidinyl, 1-piperazinyl,

wherein 4-morpholinyl, 1-piperidinyl, and 1-piperazinyl are optionally substituted with one or more methyl; and wherein

- each of R⁸ and R⁹ is independently selected from -H, C₁₋₃alkyl, morpholinylmethyl, pyrrolidinyl-methyl, and piperidinyl-methyl, wherein said
- 5 C₁₋₃alkyl, morpholinylmethyl, pyrrolidinyl-methyl, and piperidinyl-methyl are optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from hydroxy, amino and dimethylamino.

5. A compound selected from:

- 10 *N*-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]thiophene-2-sulfonamide;
N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylthiophene-2-sulfonamide;
N-(1-Benzyl-2-*tert*-butyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl)-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
 15 *N*-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*,3,5-trimethylisoxazole-4-sulfonamide;
N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*,1,2-trimethyl-1*H*-imidazole-4-sulfonamide;
N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*,1,3,5-
 20 tetramethyl-1*H*-pyrazole-4-sulfonamide;
N-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzene sulphonamide;
N-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-ethyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
N-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-isopropyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzene
 25 sulphonamide;
N-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1-methylcyclopropyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
N-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1,1-dimethylpropyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-benzenesulfonamide;
 30 *N*-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1,1-dimethyl-3-butenyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-benzenesulfonamide;
N-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1-methyl-4-piperidinyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-benzenesulfonamide;

- N*-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methyl-benzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-ethyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methyl-benzene sulphonamide;
- 5 *N*-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-isopropyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methyl-benzene sulphonamide;
- N*-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1-methylcyclopropyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methyl-benzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1-methyl-4-piperidiny)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methyl- benzenesulfonamide;
- 10 4-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-5-[methyl(phenylsulfonyl)amino]-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-yl]-1,1-dimethyl- piperidinium;
- N*-[2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-1-[(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-yl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-benzenesulfonamide;
- 15 *N*-[2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-1-[(tetrahydro-2-furanyl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-benzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[1-(cyclobutylmethyl)-2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-benzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[1-(cyclopropylmethyl)-2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-benzenesulfonamide;
- 20 *N*-(4-{[[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl) acetamide;
- N*-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methyl-6-morpholin-4-ylpyridine-3-sulfonamide;
- 25 *N*-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methyl-4-nitrobenzenesulfonamide;
- 4-Amino-*N*-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
- N*-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)propanamide;
- 30 *N*-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-2-methylpropanamide;

- N*-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-2,2-dimethylpropanamide;
N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-4-(ethylamino)-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
- 5 *N*-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-4-(formylamino)-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
- 2-Bromo-*N*-(4-{[[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;
- N*-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-2-pyrrolidin-1-ylacetamide;
- 10 *N*¹-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-*N*²,*N*²-dimethylglycinamide;
- N*-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-2-morpholin-4-ylacetamide;
- 15 *N*¹-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)glycinamide;
- 2-[(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)amino]-2-oxoethyl acetate;
- N*-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-2-hydroxyacetamide;
- 20 *N*-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methyl-4-(4-morpholinyl)-benzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methyl-4-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)-benzenesulfonamide;
- 25 *N*-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-2-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-benzenesulfonamide;
- 30 *N*-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methyl-benzenesulfonamide;

- N*-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]—benzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*,1,2-trimethyl-1*H*-imidazole-5-sulfonamide;
- 5 Ethyl 4-{[[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}-3,5-dimethyl-1*H*-pyrrole-2-carboxylate;
- N*-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-4-(hydroxymethyl)-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methyl-4-(1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)benzenesulfonamide;
- 10 *N*-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-4-[[2-(hydroxyethyl)amino]methyl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclopentylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
- 15 *N*-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(2-cyclohexylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[1-(1-Benzylpyrrolidin-3-yl)-2-*tert*-butyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
- N*-{2-*tert*-Butyl-1-[(4,4-difluorocyclohexyl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl}-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
- 20 *N*-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(pyridin-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
- N*-methyl-*N*-[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 25 *N*-[2-(1,1-difluoroethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
- N*-methyl-*N*-[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-2-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1-ethylpropyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 30 *N*-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1-ethylpropyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide; *N*-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-ethylbenzenesulfonamide;

- N*-methyl-*N*-[2-(1-methyl-1-pyridin-2-ylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[2-(1-cyano-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
- 5 *N*-methyl-*N*-[2-propyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 5-Bromo-*N*-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-6-chloro-*N*-methylpyridine-3-sulfonamide;
- 5-Bromo-*N*-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-6-[(2-hydroxyethyl)amino]-*N*-methylpyridine-3-sulfonamide;
- 10 *N*-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-6-[(2-hydroxyethyl)amino]-*N*-methylpyridine-3-sulfonamide;
- N*-(5-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}pyridin-2-yl)acetamide;
- 15 *N*-(3-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;
- N*¹-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-*N*²-(2-hydroxyethyl)glycinamide;
- 4-[(Aminocarbonyl)amino]-*N*-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
- 20 *N*-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;
- N*-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-*N*-methylacetamide;
- 25 *N*-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-2,2-dimethylpropanamide;
- N*-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-2-hydroxyacetamide;
- N*¹-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-*N*²,*N*²-dimethylglycinamide;
- 30 *N*¹-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)glycinamide;

- N*¹-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-*N*²-methylglycinamide;
N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-6-[(2-hydroxyethyl)amino]-*N*-methylpyridine-3-sulfonamide;
5 *N*-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-6-[(2-methoxyethyl)amino]-*N*-methylpyridine-3-sulfonamide;
N-[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-6-(formylamino)-*N*-methylpyridine-3-sulfonamide;
N-(5-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}pyridin-2-yl)acetamide;
10 *N*-[4-({[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]acetamide;
N-[4-({[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]acetamide;
15 *N*-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(2-piperidin-1-ylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;
N-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-(1,4-dioxan-2-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;
N-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-[(1-methylpiperidin-2-yl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;
20 *N*-(4-{[[2-*tert*-Butyl-1-[(2*R*)-1-methylpiperidin-2-yl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;
N-[4-({methyl[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]acetamide;
25 4-Bromo-*N*-[1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
N-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-4-[(2-hydroxyethyl)amino]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
N-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-4-(dimethylamino)-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
30 4-[bis(2-hydroxyethyl)amino]-*N*-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

- N*-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*,4-dimethyl-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-1,4-benzoxazine-7-sulfonamide;
- N*-[4-({methyl[2-(1-methyl-1-pyridin-2-ylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]acetamide;
- 5 *N*-(4-{[[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](ethyl)amino}sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;
- 4-[(aminocarbonyl)amino]-*N*-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-ethylbenzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-ethyl-4-{[(methylamino)carbonyl]amino}benzenesulfonamide;
- 10 4-amino-*N*-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-ethylbenzenesulfonamide;
- N*-(4-{[[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](ethyl)amino}sulfonyl}phenyl)-2,2-dimethylpropanamide;
- 15 2-[(4-{[[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](ethyl)amino}sulfonyl}phenyl)amino]-2-oxoethyl acetate;
- N*-(4-{[[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](ethyl)amino}sulfonyl}phenyl)-2-hydroxyacetamide;
- N*-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-ethyl-4-{[(isopropylamino)carbonyl]amino}benzenesulfonamide;
- 20 *N*-[4-({ethyl[2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]acetamide;
- 4-[(aminocarbonyl)amino]-*N*-ethyl-*N*-[2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 25 *N*-ethyl-*N*-[2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-4-{[(methylamino)carbonyl]amino}benzenesulfonamide;
- 4-amino-*N*-ethyl-*N*-[2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- N*-[4-({ethyl[2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]-2,2-dimethylpropanamide;
- 30 2-{[4-({ethyl[2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]amino}-2-oxoethyl acetate;

- N*-[4-({ethyl[2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-yl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino)sulfonyl}phenyl]-2-hydroxyacetamide;
- N*-ethyl-4-{{(isopropylamino)carbonyl}amino}-*N*-[2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-yl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
- 5 *N*-(4-{{[2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-yl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino}sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;
- 4-[(aminocarbonyl)amino]-*N*-[2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-yl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
- 2-Hydroxy-*N*-(4-{{[2-(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-yl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino}sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;
- 10 *N*-(4-{{[2-(1-ethoxy-1-methylethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-yl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino}sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;
- N*-[4-({[1-(2-azetidin-1-ylethyl)-2-*tert*-butyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino)sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;
- 15 3-[5-({[4-(acetyl amino)phenyl]sulfonyl}amino)-2-*tert*-butyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]propyl acetate;
- N*-{4-[(1-[(1*S*,4*S*)-bicyclo[2.2.1]hept-5-en-2-yl)methyl]-2-*tert*-butyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino)sulfonyl}phenyl}acetamide;
- N*-[4-({[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-3-yl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino)sulfonyl}phenyl]acetamide;
- 20 *N*-{4-[(2-*tert*-butyl-1-[2-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-yl)ethyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino)sulfonyl}phenyl}acetamide;
- N*-(4-{{[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclobutylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino}sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;
- 25 4-[(aminocarbonyl)amino]-*N*-[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclobutylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
- N*-(4-{{[2-*tert*-butyl-1-(cyclobutylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino}sulfonyl}phenyl)-2,2-dimethylpropanamide;
- N*-(4-{{[2-(1,1-difluoroethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-yl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino}sulfonyl}phenyl)-2-hydroxyacetamide;
- 30 *N*-(4-{{[2-(1,1-difluoroethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-yl)methyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino}sulfonyl}phenyl)acetamide;

- N*-(4-{[[2-(1,1-difluoroethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-3-methylbutanamide;
N-(4-{[[2-(1,1-difluoroethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl](methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-2,2-dimethylpropanamide;
 5 *N*-[2-(1,1-difluoroethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-4-{[(isopropylamino)carbonyl]amino}-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
 4-{Bis{[(isopropylamino)carbonyl]amino}-*N*-[2-(1,1-difluoroethyl)-1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-*N*-methylbenzenesulfonamide;
N-[4-({methyl[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]acetamide;
 10 4-[(aminocarbonyl)amino]-*N*-methyl-*N*-[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
N-methyl-4-nitro-*N*-[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
 15 4-amino-*N*-methyl-*N*-[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
 2,2-dimethyl-*N*-[4-({methyl[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]propanamide;
 2-{{4-({methyl[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]amino}-2-oxoethyl acetate;
 20 4-{[(isopropylamino)carbonyl]amino}-*N*-methyl-*N*-[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]benzenesulfonamide;
 2-Hydroxy-*N*-[4-({methyl[1-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylmethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]amino}sulfonyl)phenyl]acetamide
 25 and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

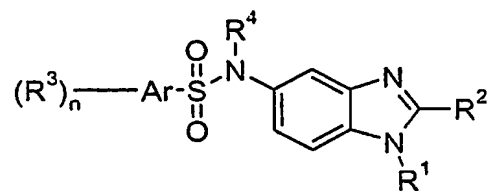
6. A compound according to any one of claims 1-5 for use as a medicament.
7. The use of a compound according to any one of claims 1-5 in the manufacture
 30 of a medicament for the therapy of pain.
8. The use of a compound according to any one of claims 1-5 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of anxiety disorders.

9. The use of a compound according to any one of claims 1-5 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of cancer, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, cancer, Huntington's chorea, Alzheimer's disease, gastrointestinal disorders and cardiovascular disorders.

10. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any one of claims 1-5 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

10 11. A method for the therapy of pain in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 1-5.

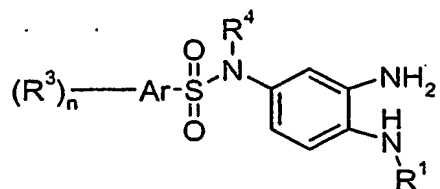
12. A method for preparing a compound of Formula I,



15

I

comprising the step of reacting a compound of Formula II,

**II**

20 with a compound of $R^2C(=O)X$, in the presence of a base and optionally a coupling reagent, followed by treatment with an acid;

wherein

X is selected from Cl, Br, F and OH;

25 R^1 is selected from C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{2-10} alkenyl, C_{2-10} alkynyl, $R^5-C(=O)-O-$
 C_{1-6} alkyl, $R^5R^6N-C_{1-6}$ alkyl, R^5O-C_{1-6} alkyl, $R^5C(=O)N(-R^6)-C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $R^5R^6NS(=O)_2-$
 C_{1-6} alkyl, $R^5CS(=O)_2N(-R^6)-C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $R^5R^6NC(=O)N(-R^7)-C_{1-6}$ alkyl,

$R^5R^6NS(=O)_2N(R^7)-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{6-10}aryl-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{6-10}aryl-C(=O)-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{3-10}cycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{3-6}heterocyclyl-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{3-6}heterocyclyl-C(=O)-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{1-10}hydrocarbylamino$, R^5R^6N- , R^5O- , $R^5C(=O)N(-R^6)-$, $R^5R^6NS(=O)_2-$, $R^5CS(=O)_2N(-R^6)-$, $R^5R^6NC(=O)N(-R^7)-$, $R^5R^6NS(=O)_2N(R^7)-$,
 5 $C_{6-10}aryl$, $C_{6-10}aryl-C(=O)-$, $C_{3-10}cycloalkyl$, $C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl$, $C_{3-6}heterocyclyl$ and $C_{3-6}heterocyclyl-C(=O)-$; wherein said $C_{1-10}alkyl$, $C_{2-10}alkenyl$, $C_{2-10}alkynyl$, $C_{6-10}aryl-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{6-10}aryl-C(=O)-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{3-10}cycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{3-6}heterocyclyl-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{3-6}heterocyclyl-C(=O)-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{1-10}hydrocarbylamino$, $C_{6-10}aryl$, $C_{6-10}aryl-C(=O)-$, $C_{3-10}cycloalkyl$, $C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl$, $C_{3-6}heterocyclyl$ or $C_{3-6}heterocyclyl-C(=O)-$ used in defining R^1 is optionally substituted
 10 by one or more groups selected from halogen, cyano, nitro, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy, benzyl, and $-NR^5R^6$;

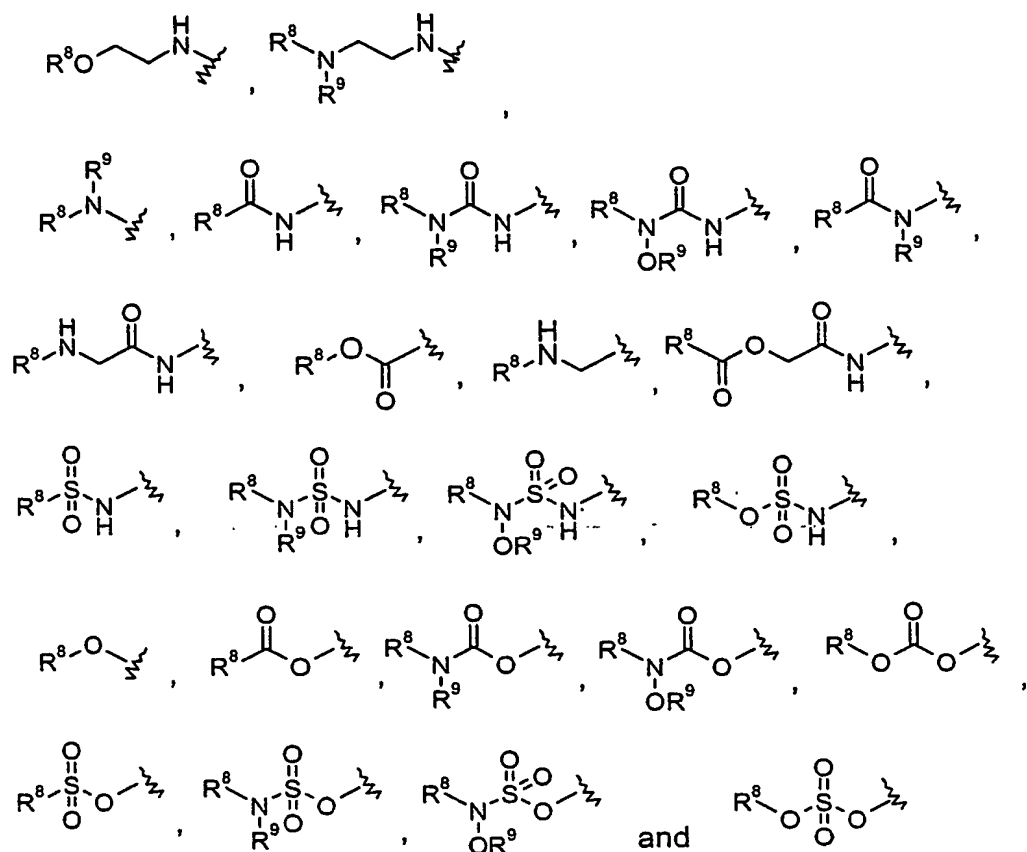
R^2 is selected from $C_{1-10}alkyl$, $C_{2-10}alkenyl$, $C_{2-10}alkynyl$, $C_{3-10}cycloalkyl$, $C_{3-10}cycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl$, R^5R^6N- , $C_{3-5}heteroaryl$, $C_{6-10}aryl$ and $C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl$, wherein
 15 said $C_{1-10}alkyl$, $C_{2-10}alkenyl$, $C_{2-10}alkynyl$, $C_{3-8}cycloalkyl$, $C_{3-8}cycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl$, $C_{3-5}heteroaryl$, $C_{6-10}aryl$ or $C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl$ used in defining R^2 is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, cyano, nitro, methoxy,
 20 ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy, and $-NR^5R^6$;

wherein R^5 , R^6 and R^7 are independently selected from $-H$, $C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{2-6}alkenyl$, $C_{2-6}alkynyl$, and a divalent C_{1-6} group that together with another divalent R^5 , R^6 or R^7 forms a portion of a ring;

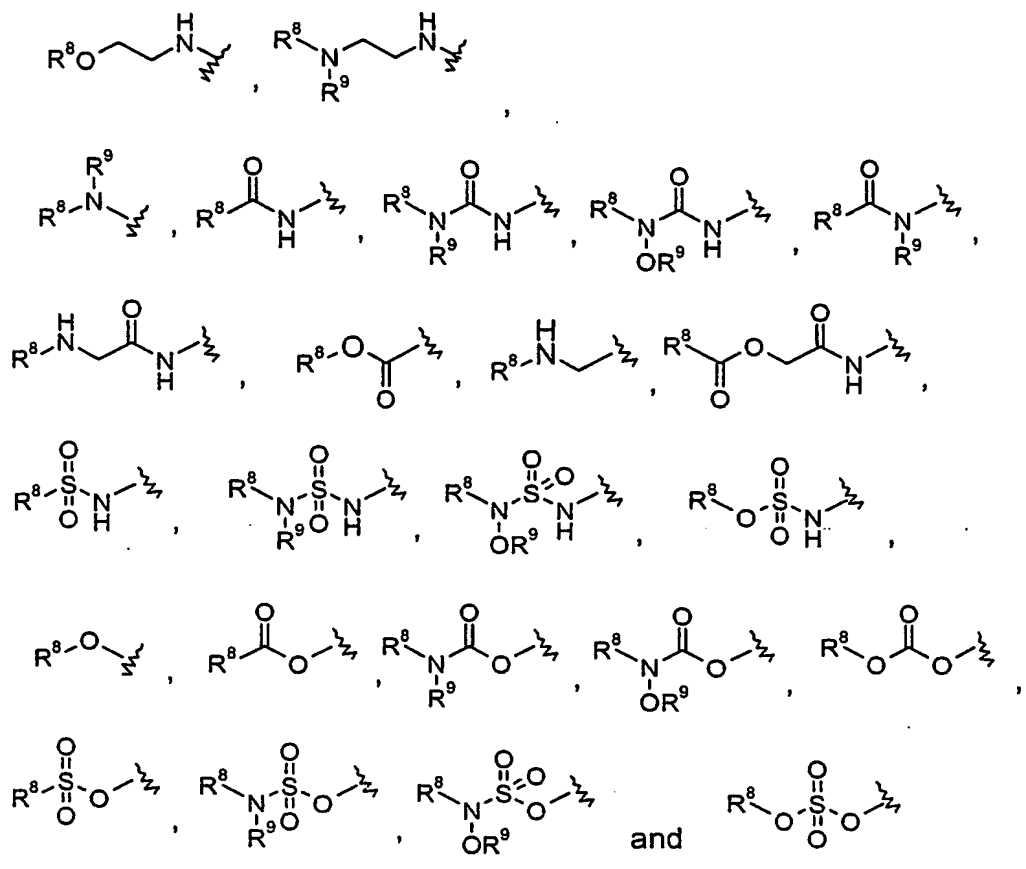
Ar is selected from $C_{6-10}aryl$ and $C_{3-8}heteroaryl$;

25 n is selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3;

each of R^3 is independently selected from $-H$, nitro, halogen, $C_{1-10}alkyl$, $C_{2-10}alkenyl$, $C_{2-10}alkynyl$, $C_{3-10}cycloalkyl$, $C_{3-10}cycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{4-8}cycloalkenyl-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl-C_{1-6}alkyl$, $C_{3-6}heterocycloalkyl$



optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from C₁₋₆alkyl, hydroxy, halogen, amino and C₁₋₆alkoxy,



- each of R^8 and R^9 is independently selected from $-H$, C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{2-10} alkenyl, C_{2-10} alkynyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl- C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} heterocyclyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{3-6} heterocyclyl- C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{6-10} aryl- C_{1-6} alkyl, and a divalent C_{1-6} group that together with another divalent group selected from R^8 and R^9 forms a portion of a ring, wherein said C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{2-10} alkenyl, C_{2-10} alkynyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl- C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} heterocyclyl, C_{6-10} aryl, C_{3-6} heterocyclyl- C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{6-10} aryl- C_{1-6} alkyl, or divalent C_{1-6} group is optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from halogen, cyano, nitro, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl, ethyl, hydroxy, and $-NR^5R^6$; and
- R^4 is selected from $-H$, C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{2-10} alkenyl, C_{2-10} alkynyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl- C_{1-6} alkyl, and C_{4-8} cycloalkenyl- C_{1-6} alkyl.